TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1904. Entered at the Post Office at New York as Sec Class Mail Matter.

Subscriptions by Mail, Postpaid. DAILY, Per Month. 80 50 DAILY, Per Year 6 00 SUNDAY, Per Year...... 2 00
DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Year...... 8 00 Postage to foreign countries added. 70

Published by The Sun Printing and Publishing ation at No. 170 Nassau street, in the Borough of Manhattan, New York.

er our friends who favor us with manuscripts ton soish to have resected articles returned, the nust in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

Surrender the Panama Canal Strip?

If there is truth and if there is force in the Democratic criticism of President ROOSEVELT'S doings on the Isthmus of Panama in the national interest for the sake of an American canal there is only one honorable course for that party and its candidate to take.

That is to demand squarely the undoing of what has been done by Mr. ROOSEVELT and Mr. HAY; the withdrawal of our Government from the canal strip; the abrogation of the Hay-Bunau-Varilla treaty; the annulment of the recognition of Panama's independence; the adoption of immediate and effective measures to restore Panama to the Republic of Colombia, against the will of Panama, and even by force of American arms if necessary.

For a moralist and a constitutionalist there is no middle ground that we can discern. Either the present situation with regard to the interoceanic canal was reached by Mr. ROOSEVELT'S Administration in a fair, legal and honorable way, or not; and, if not, the only thing to do is to go back to the beginning and begin all over again.

What does Mr. PARKER think of the idea of holding on to property our title to which is declared to be fraudulent?

What does he think of the idea of the nation's profiting for all future time by a the part of a third Power than she was transaction which is declared to be in- after Gen. KUROPATKIN's first defeat at famous?

Promise and Past Performance.

How grand and beautiful is the sound of this promise and high resolve made the other day by the Hon. FRANK WAY-LAND HIGGINS:

" If elected Governor, I shall lose no opportunity to advise and cooperate with that great army of anthropists who are so unselfishly laboring to improve the condition of these unfortunates, keeping in mind always that niggardly economy should not prevail as against the health, well being and cure of these charges of our State."

The past performances of Mr. Higgins illustrate beautifully and grandly his devotion to philanthropy, his unselfish interest in improving the condition of "these unfortunates," and his policy of generous expenditure for the benefit of their health, well being and cure.

Who are the philanthropists with whom he has cooperated hitherto? The Hon. BENJAMIN B. ODELL, Jr., and his gang of grafting politicians. All the real philanthropists in the State protested against the Odell Lunacy bill. Mr. HIGGINS spoke and acted for it in the 23,000 patients in the State hospitals from which he could hardly be dislodged. for the insane in the power of the Odell ring. He voted for a policy of niggardly economy toward those unfortunates. By his vote for the State Lunacy Com mission he cooperated with the Odell philanthropists in reducing the food allowance of the insane. He cooperated in the noble philanthropy of letting them have half an egg a day-when eggs don't cost more than 15 cents a dozen. He cooperated in shaving down the lunatics' diet, in giving them less meat and potatoes and vegetables and fewer clothes. The alienists and the genuine philanthropists objected in vain. Mr. HIGGINS lost no opportunity to advise and cooperate with ODELL, the head of the Wholesale Grocery School of Philanthropy.

Another important act of Mr. Hig-GINS, in cooperation with the Odell philanthropists, was his favorable report as chairman of the Finance Committee of the Senate and his vote for the bill creating the office of Fiscal Supervisor of State Charities, an office held by the Republican wiskinkie of

Albany county. Mr. HIGGINS has been an active accomplice in the shameful work of impairing and despoiling the State charities. To a man and woman "the great army of philanthropists" are against him as he has been against them.

The Campaign in Connecticut.

Judge A. HEATON ROBERTSON of New Haven, whom the Connecticut Democrats nominated for Governor to oppose has been rendered valueless by the fort-HENRY ROBERTS of Hartford, has made unes of war. The restoration, however, to defend their feline rights. The dogs his campaign upon the issue of extrava- must be prompt and complete. At the attack. Battle rages. The land is gance in State expenditures, a familiar end of a designated time not a single rayaged. Grim war rears its bloody Democratic battle cry. Like a good Russian soldier should remain south of head. Peace takes to the woods. many other States, the Nutmeg State the Amur River, and the Manchurian has run daft in the establishment of Railway should be transferred from the commissions for the regulation of affairs private Russian capitalists who ostensiwhich in the past were left in the hands of the Legislature. Commissions cost money to maintain, and as the money to maintain the Connecticut commissions goes pretty generally into the pockets of Republicans, the Democrats are naturally against them.

Judge ROBERTSON recently spoke at New Britain, denouncing "what he termed the extravagance of the party in control." It is always the "party in loose. The Republican answer to him is that since 1897, when the State debt the three Manchurian provinces. She was \$3,117,173, it has been reduced by promised in writing to evacuate the \$2,902,589, until now, minus the cash in the treasury, it amounts to only \$214.584. Since 1900 bonds to the amount of \$2 -288,000 have been paid, and the Republicans promise that if they are continued in power, as the Hartford Courant puts it, "the problem will be how and where to reduce the State taxation, which has already been removed from the individual citizen altogether."

That is one of the things the Democause the taxes now levied are indirect the citizens do not realize how they are such terms as we have indicated Russia Mr. PARKER is a dramatist. He should

being robbed. But the citizens seem to like the process. They seem not to be opposed to extravagance that reduces the State debt by jumps each year. In fact, their principal interest in the whether the Hon. SAMUEL FESSENDEN, who said, "God Almighty hates a quitter," or the Hon. MORGAN GARDNER BULKE-LEY shall succeed the Hon. JOSEPH ROS-WELL HAWLEY in the United States Senate on March 4, 1905.

Congress and the Slocum Disaster. Besides punishing the officers found responsible for the Slocum disaster and the terrible loss of life therefrom, the Government should take such action as will render it more difficult hereafter for steamboat owners and lessees to imperil the lives of passengers. This can be done only by a thorough overhauling of the statutes under which the inspec

tion service is conducted. One of the most lamentable features of the Slocum disaster is the fact that the attention of Congress during its last session was directed to the laws governing the inspection of vessels, and it took no action to improve those laws. GEORGE BRUCE CORTELYOU, as Secretary of the Department of Commerce and Labor, sent a communication to Congress reciting some of the many defects in the statutes and asking for revision and amendment. Many of the provisions now in effect are nothing short of absurd. The loose manner in which the statutes were drawn is shown by the fact that the inspection districts are not even described correctly.

Congress was adjourned so early in the year that it had no time for the necessary reforms urged by Mr. CORTELYOU. It is to be hoped that President ROOSEthe House and the Senate to act at the session which begins in December.

Has the Time Come for Peace in the Far East?

It may be true that Russia is now no more disposed to accept mediation on Liaoyang. Does it follow that she would refuse to treat directly with her antagonist, if a proposal to that effect should come from Tokio?

So far as the projected advance from Mukden and the relief of Port Arthur are concerned it must be recognized at St. Petersburg that "all is lost save honor. The honor of the Russian arms remains intact. The defence of Port Arthur is destined to rank with the defence of Sebastopol among the most illustrious achievements in military history. It presents a memorable contrast to Ba-ZAINE'S surrender of Metz. It is also true that since the Visigoths and the Moslems fought for a week in the great battle that decided the fate of Spain the world has witnessed no more amazing proofs of heroic fortitude than have been exhibited at Yentai by the army under Gen. KUROPATRIN. That army has been beaten, but it has inflicted such terrible losses on the enemy that it has no immediate pursuit to dread.

Apparently it is optional with the Russian commander to concentrate his forces behind the fortifications of Muk-State Senate. He voted to put all the den or to retire unmolested to Tie Pass, unless Japanese flanking columns should succeed in seizing positions on the railway in his rear. It must be recognized at Tokio that while Marshal OYAMA has incident was illustrated conspicuously from the Czar-has, it is true, been in a great cause upon the iniquity of the two combatants, Japan is the less and novelty to its presentation Mr.

> Would it not now be the part of pruand suggest terms of peace so studiously of dignity?

Suppose that the Tokio Government should say: We do not ask you to cede | icanos. to us the island of Saghalien, much less cuniary indemnity. We simply request of Chinese Manchuria, including the ment Mr. PARKER grows eloquent. Liaotung peninsula, your lease of which | Enter the two unattractive dogs-the bly own it to the Chinese Government. The cost of reimbursing them for their outlay is naturally to be assumed by the Czar, but the burden would not be a heavy one, if it be true that the nominal owners are dummies and that the rail ways have really been built and equipped

at the expense of the Russian treasury. Why should such terms as these be repelled at St. Petersburg? Up to the outbreak of hostilities Russia persistcontrol" that holds the purse strings too ently protested that she had no intention of disputing China's sovereignty over whole region at stated dates. Japan would now ask her to make good the promise. As for the lease of Port Arthur, it is obvious that, once in Japanese hands, that fortress can never be retaken so long as its defenders command the sea. As for Corea, Russia's principal motive for desiring ascendency therein was the Democratio Club and the Independent wish to secure an ice-free harbor; but | Parker Clubs of the East cannot hear the importance of such an acquisition the words of Mr. PARKER. Nor can is minimized now that it is plainly needcrats most deplore. They argue that ful to renounce the hope of supremacy free speech is infringed. The right to in Far Eastern waters. By accepting hear free speech is nullified.

would merely resume the position which she occupied before the Chinese-Japanese war, and she might fairly claim that in making so slight a recession she yielded, not to the physical strength campaign springs from the question of an enemy, but to the insuperable difficulty of fighting effectively at a vast distance from her base.

How much China would gain from such an accommodation is manifest; but where, it may be asked, would Japan find her profit in it? We answer that Japan would get the very thing for which she went to war, to wit, ascendency in Corea and the definite removal of the Russians from Manchuria. Those advantages are worth all the sacrifices in men and money that the island realm has made during the last eight months. Under Japan's undisputed control the Corean peninsula should undergo a quick transformation and soon regain the civilization and the prosperity for which it was formerly distinguished. To Japan the acquisition of Corea means not only an outlet for her surplus population and a strategic coign of vantage with reference to the Yellow Sea, but

absolute security against invasion. Russia has repeatedly declared that when she is ready to treat she will treat directly with her antagonist. Why should she refuse to treat to-day, if Japan should propose a reasonable basis of agreement?

Freight Rates as a Factor in National Economy.

In a paper read by Mr. E. P. NORTH before the International Engineering Congress on Oct. 4, and published in the Railroad Gazette of Oct. 14. attention is called to an interesting factor in American trade and industry the significance and importance of which is little realized VELT will have sufficient influence to get by the general public. It lies in the cheapness of freight rates. This persists. notwithstanding the somewhat frequent complaint of excessive cost in that department of national economy.

In support of the argument Mr. NORTH cites the following statistics: The average rate of freight transportation per ton per mile is, in the United Kingdom, 2.8 cents; in Russia, 2.4 cents; in France, 2.2 cents; in Germany, 1.64 cents, and in the United States, 0.8 cent. The American rate in 1885 was 1.057. It is now 0.764. Mr. North says: "If our rates had remained as in 1885 we should have paid [last year] \$3,500,000,000 more for transporting our freight than we did, and if our freight rates had been equal to those of England, as stated by MULHALL, and with as large a volume of business possible at such rates, the cost would have been nearly \$33,000,000,-000 greater."

The low cost of assembly and distribution of our various products, natural and manufactured, is one of the prime factors in our economic life. The total value of those products approximates \$22,000,000,000 per year. If American freight rates were equal to those of England it is apparent that the cost of commodities in this country would be increased by more than 150 per cent. This seems incredible, but the estimate is based on figures which are commonly regarded as indisputable. It seems less so when it is understood that in 1902 our railways carried a total of 1,200,000,000 tons of freight.

Dramat: Realism at Rosemount.

The Hon. ALTON BROOKS PARKER. whose keen understanding of dramatic twice outmanœuvred and outfought his on July 9 for the first time, produced on antagonist the defeat in neither instance | Saturday last a most satisfying and origihas been a rout. The Japanese have nal animal show upon the lawn of his learned what CHARLES XII. and NAPO- home, Rosemount. The occasion was LEON discovered, that for the indomita- a friendly gathering of the members of ble Russian discomfiture seldom means the Avon Beach Regular Democratic catastrophe. The forward movement Club of Bath Beach and the hosts of the begun by Gen. KUROPATKIN-evidently Independent Parker Clubs of the East. in compliance with peremptory orders Mr. PARKER was to address these allies stopped, but what else has the Mikado Americanism as displayed in the far gained, at the cost of a tremendous sacri- Pacific in 1898 and since. The theme fice of human life, a sacrifice which, of | was not a new one, and to give variety PARKER arranged his plans.

To carry them into execution he endence for Japan to profit by the period listed the support of a competent comof inaction which is almost certain to pany of seventeen handsome catsfollow the exhausting struggle at Yentai their beauty emblematical of beautiful character-to enact the part of oppressed moderate that they might be accepted, Filipinos: two dogs of repulsive appearor at least considered, without any loss | ance to play the rôles of Spaniards, and unenumerated farm hands to personate the heartless, cruel and vindictive Amer-

At the opening of Mr. PARKER's ad-Vladivostok, or a square mile of main- dress the seventeen handsome cats are land territory which is acknowledged to found enjoying home rule, peace and be Russian. We do not ask for a pe- plenty upon the spacious lawn, unvexed by the intruding and enslaving foe. A you to recognize our suzerainty over scene restful, grateful, fragrant of lib-Corea, and to restore to China the whole erty and freedom. At the proper mo-Spanish despoilers. The cats spring

The strife continues, the horrors of war are all depicted. While it is at its height the farm hands enter, brutal, strong, vigorous. They chase away the dogs-the Spaniards are driven from Manila. The cats, who regard them as their saviors, purr and rub themselves. The grateful Filipinos!

But what is this? Ah, imperialism! The farm hands, with no gentle hand, collect the cats and drive them to the barns. There they are placed under lock and key. Deceitful and marblehearted oppressors! You have robbed the gentle Filipinos of their liberty. Who can tell what horrors you may perpetrate? Col. CODMAN is almost sure he saw a farm hand throw a bucket of water over an obstinate cat. Cats hate water; the water cure! Realism run riot! The reflex effect of an enterprise of militarism is also illustrated. While the Americano farm hands disperse the Spanish canines and subjugate the feline Filipinos, the Avon Beach Regular he continue his speech. The right of

not have bound himself to the bench. THE SALE OF SUBMARINES. As a fabricator of dramas with a purpose Subject to Capture as Contraband, but N he shines more illustrious even than as Violation of Neutral Obligations.

To a Ticket Splitter.

an expounder of the law.

The asker of the question printed below is a resident of Kings county, and his desire to rebuke Odellism is typical of the frame of mind in which many of his neighbors and friends find themselves:

" To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I. a Republi can, two sons and a son-in-law wish to vote for the whole Republican ticket with the exception of F. W. Higgms. If we mark our X under the ballot box and X before the name of D-Capy HERRICE, will that be legal?

BROOKLYN, Oct. 17."

Each member of this family may vote for the whole Republican ticket except Mr. HIGGINS and in favor of Mr. HER-RICK by making the legal cross (X) mark in the circle under the ballot box and a cross (X) mark in the voting space in front of Mr. HERRICK's name. The votes will be counted for every candidate on the Republican ticket except Mr. HIGGINS and for Mr. HERRICK.

Our correspondent and his sons should not stop at Mr. Higgins's name, however. They should vote for FRANCIS BURTON HARRISON and JOHN CUNNEEN. the candidates with Mr. HERRICK on the Citizens' ticket for Lieutenant-Governor and Attorney-General. Odellism will be only scotched by the defeat of Mr. Higgins and the election of the Grocery's candidates for Lieutenant-Governor and Attorney-General. It should be killed by defeating the three candidates.

Make a cross (X) mark in the circle under the Republican emblem and then make cross (X) marks in the voting spaces in front of the names of the Hon. D-CADY HERRICK, the Hon. FRANCIS BURTON HARRISON and the Hon. JOHN CUNNEEN. That is the prescription for curing Odellism.

GAZEAWAY DAVIS has a rival in Texas, rival in years, in oratorical activity and in the range of his political reminiscences He is a Democrat, too, and his eighty-sixth birthday, recently celebrated in Texas, recalls many episodes of his long public service. This senior of GAZEAWAY is Judge JOHN H. REAGAN, described as "the only survivor of the Confederate Cabinet." Judge REAGAN was born in Sevier county

Tenn., in 1818. After leaving Tennessee he made his home in the Republic of Texas and served in the Texan war against the Indians. He was appointed Deputy Land Surveyor in 1839 and became a Justice of the Peace in 1846. In 1861 he was a member of the Secession Convention of Texas and afterward of the Confederate Congress and served as Postmaster-General of the Confederacy from 1861 until its overthrow. In 1865 he was also Acting Secretary of the Treasury. He was taken prisoner in May, 1865, liberated in October, returned to Texas, was a member of the House of Representatives from one of the Texas districts for twelve years, and after the close of his term was, for four years, a United States Senator. He retired in 1891, but is still active in public affairs, and it is credibly reported that he is supporting GAZEAWAY DAVIS for Vice-President on the sound, broad and patriotic ground that men over eighty should be encouraged to take their fair share of the duties of public service.

Yet Judge REAGAN left off his political officeholding at 73, eight years earlier than the age at which GAZEAWAY is willing to The retirement of Lord MILNER from his

open to a charge of failure they have been laurel market is in no danger of being strained to provide wreaths for his brow He is a man of unquestionable ability and sterling integrity, and the honesty and purity of his motives are quite beyond impeachment. His non-success in the attempt to establish those conditions which optimistic Englishmen predicted as the inevitable outcome of British domination n South Africa is only in part his fault.

Odellism and the Hotel Guests. To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: A few words about Governor-Chairman Odell from a commercial traveller's standpoint, which should be of interest to all readers of THE SUN and every con nercial traveller living in the State of New York.

Early this year a bill was introduced for the beneat of commercial travellers and the travelling pub ie in general, compelling all hotels in the State of New York (except New York city and Buffalo) to have placed in every guest room above the ground ropes or other appliances for the sole purpos of a fire escape, the ropes or other appliances to be composed of some metallic or non-combustible aubstance. This bill was passed by both the Sen-ate and Assembly after a hard fight, and a great many commercial travellers were told that Gov ernor Odell would sign it. But no! On the last

Governor-Chairman Odell's candidate for Governor of this State should not be elected, as he will not support good bills that are for the best interests of the people; and every commercial traveller should take this stand when election day comes A COMMERCIAL TRAVELLER.

For Ambassador to Mexico. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The post of merican Ambassador to Mexico will be vacan next March, by the voluntary retirement of Gen.
Powell Clayton. We Americans in Mexico hope for the appointment of a man-first, last, and always an American, next a gentleman. The recent out-rageous and inexcusable killing of two good Ameri-can citizens in cold blood, just west of this State, has caused to be published the valuation fixed upon Americans in Mexico. To the principal ten months, and \$250 Mexican money (\$110 American) per Yan kee. That the principal will not serve the ten months may be accepted as an assured fact. Give is a man experienced with the American Latin. PARRAL, Chihushus, Oct. 8.

Various Appetites of the Horse.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Referring to your article on Dr. Hornblower's pigeon eating erse, the following may be of interest: Stewart, in Loudon's Encyclopædia of Agriculture: "In some sterile countries they [horses] are forced to subsist on dried fish, and even on vegetable mould; in arabia, on milk. fieshballs, eggs, broth. In the Mahratta country, salt, pepper, and other spices are made into balls, with flour and butter, and these are supposed to produce animation and to fine the coat. Broth made from sheep's head is some FERDINAND KARGEBEHN. HOBOKEN, N. J., Oct. 15.

Rushing Contracts on Canal Job.

From the Binghamton Press.

Governor Odell is rushing contracts on the canal ob so as to make it more difficult to wipe off the slate and make a new start on the proposition to reconsider the enlargement scheme. By the tim the next Legislature meets the entire \$10,000,00 which the law allows to be appropriated inside two years will be awarded and the work begun in ome fashion or other, so as to add to the improb

Football.

As through the swift succeeding years Of sunshine and of shade Our thoughts go harking backward To cakes that mother made,

'Tie thue in retrospection To fill our souls with sest,

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: From the reports of your Washington correspond-ent as to the building of submarine boats for Russia and Japan by private shipyards in this country, it seems l'kely that no ac will be taken by our Government in the matter As both of the beliggerents have given order for these vessels, it is hardly probable tha the diplomatic representative of either will make any protest, but if a protest were made

The fact that these vessels when shipped are not capable of being used for imme naval operations, are not armed or furnished ships that are to be put together after the have left our territory, renders them in their ncomplete condition mere merchandise, co traband it is true and subject to be confiscated captured by the enemy, but the shipmer of which by private individuals is no violation of international obligations on the part of our

Under the law of nations, even if these vessels were fully equipped for hostile pur-poses, their sale and delivery to either of the belligerents would not constitute a breach of our neutrality. Prof. Hall, discussing this question in his latest edition (1904), of "International Law," says:

It is fully recognized that a vess armed and in every respect fitted, the moment it receives its crew, to act as a man-of-war, is a proper subject of commerce. There is nothing to prevent its neutral possessor from selling it and undertaking to deliver it in the neutral port or in that of the purchaser, subject to the right of the beligerent to seize it as contraband if he meets it on the high seas or within his neury's meets it on the high seas or within his enemy's waters. "There is nothing," says Mr. Justice Story, delivering the opinion of the United State Supreme Court in the case of the Santissima Trinidad, "in the law of nations that forbids our citizens from sending armed vessels as well as munitions of war to foreign ports for sale. It is a commercia dventure which no nation is bound to prohibit. If the neutral may sell his vessel when built, he may build it to order, and it must be permissible is between the belligerent and the neutral State. to give the order which it is permissible to execute It would appear, therefore, arguing from a principles alone, that a vessel of war may be armed and furnished with a minimum navigating crew, and that in this state, provided it has not received a commission, it may clear from a neutral harbor on a confessed voyage to a belligerent ort without any infraction of neutrality having It is true that our neutrality laws codified

in the Revised Statutes impose much severer restrictions upon the building and fitting out of vessels intended for belligerent purposes than does the law of nations, but our bligations to other nations are determined not by our municipal statutes but by the law of nations. Mr. Wharton, in his "Commenstatute, passed in 1818, was enacted from excessive caution for the purpose of keeping the new republic out of the war then raging in Europe: that it was never regarded as determining the duties of the United States to foreign belligerents and that the ruling of the court in the case of the Santissima Trinidad has been accepted by the Federal Government as determining the scope of

that statute. He adds: ow it so happens that since the civil war we have been constantly supplying with armed ships foreign nations in a state of belligerency either actual or prospective. There has not been a single official intimation that sales of this kind are illegal. Were a prosecution to be ordered against parties making such sales, there can be no question that the ruling in the Santissima Trinidad would be repeated and the defendants in such cases acuitted. And even were it otherwise, and the that municipal law would not be held to modify the law of pations] and make our Government to stop such sales. No doubt to carelessly or knowingly permit an armed cruiser to be manned a a neutral port, and sent out from such port to prey on belligerent commerce, or to form a part of a belligerent navy, is a breach of neutrality. Rut for a neutral to sell a ship, even an ironclad, to a belligerent, such ship not belig manned and armed in a neutral port, is no more a breach of neutrality than for a neutral to permit ablebodied

Upon general principles it would seem to be no more a violation of our neutral obliga tions to allow our citizens to furnish ships to the belligerents than to allow them to post in South Africa leaves to other hands | furnish batteries of artillery, the only differa work of endless difficulty. While Lord ence being that ships are to be used on sea MILNER'S labors in reconstruction are not while the batteries are to be used on land. Of course, in either case, the shippers must take the risk of capture in transit and conuent con fiscation WASHINGTON, Oct. 17.

WHAT IS THE TREATY OF LHASA? Nothing Very Distinct or Positive, It Seems-England in Arabia.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: After all the noise about the treaty alleged to have been made by the British at Lhasa, it turns out that there is no treaty at all in the true meaning of the word. The Chinese Amban or High Commissioner did not sign it, not having received the necessary instruc-tions from his Government; and the Tibetan lama who did sign it had no delegated power from his own people but only the recognition by the British Commissioner, Col. Young-husband, of his authority for doing so. To cap all, the London India Office has issued an official communication in the following

terms: "With reference to statements which have been telegraphed from India as to the general scope of the agreement signed at Lhasa between the British commissioners and the Tibetan authorities, we are informed that the convention still awaits ratification by the Viceroy of India, and that the terms are not yet finally settled.

What kind of instrument this document can be, which is called a treaty, an agreement, a convention, but the terms of which are not yet finally settled, must be left to the new diplomacy to settle. One of the correspondents with the expedition described it as "a kind of a treaty," which is not exactly a diplomatic definition but was no doubt zood enough for the occasion. In reality it would appear to be merely a draft agreement arranged to enable the expedition to get away from Lhasa before the winter set in, and giving the British a kind of right recognized by a Tibetan lama to occupy the Chumbi Valley indefinitely. The lama who signed this unusual kind of a document is said to have smiled as he affixed his signature: the lama who speeded the parting guest is stated to have wept briny tears; while the Chinese Amban watched proceedings with expressionless solemnity. What was the true inwardness of these varied signs of emotion or its absence must be left to time to tell. In the meantime it may be well to note that the Chinese official who has been sent to Lhasa as inspector to report to his Government on this Tibetan incident and take charge of affairs there has the confidence of Yuan-shi-kai, who was a disciple of Lihung-Chang, who was a colleague of old Commissioner Li of the time of the British oplum wars, who heartily detested England. The net result of it all appears to be that the sanctity of the isolation of the capital of the Buddhist religion has been violated and its secrets laid bare to the vulgar gaze.

From Lhasa to Mecca seems a long cry, but a report from India would indicate that the success in opening Tibet to the world has inspired the British Indian administration to make a similar descent on the Holy Places of Islam. It is stated that as a consequence of the victory of the Arab allies of the Sheikh of Koweit over the tribes which are partisans of the Sultan Abdul Hamid II., recently referred to in The Sun, a British mission is being prepared in accord with the Sheikh of Koweit to proceed shortly to Mecca under his auspices to open up direct relations with the Grand Shereef of a convention, but the terms of which are not yet finally settled, must be left to the new

The Citizens' Ticket. From a letter in the Bronxville Review

object being to divest myself of any political bias or prejudice and cast a ballo for the candidates best fitted, in my judgment, for the respective offices to which they aspire, regardless of their political faith,

* * I have tried to allow my judgment to rise above any pardonable prejudice I might have and after mature thought and deliberation, and without going into the details or reasons why I have reached the fol-lowing conclusions, I have determined, at reaching election, to vote for R velt and Fairbanks and Herrick and Harri-JOSEPH L. ROBERTSON

CUBA'S INDUSTRIAL PROGRESS.

In a land like Cuba the item of "balance of trade" has a significance which does not attach to it in countries like the United States and England, with their complicated system of production, exchange and

Cuba is virtually a large farm. If hose who live on the farm support themselves and sell a portion of their crop in the outside market to an amount which is in excess of their purchases that excess may be regarded as the cash profits of the farmers. If they buy (import) more than they sell (export) in a given year, their profit and loss account will show its balance on the debit page and stand as a cash obligation to be discharged by shipments from subsequent crops.

The figures given for Cuba's commerce for the last five years show that she is gradually returning to her ante-bellum position of a creditor nation. The following figures are for calendar years and are exclusive of coin and bullion, merchandise

only being represented: Exports Deficit. -- \$21,715,700 1899.....\$66,783,100 1900..... 66,658,600 1901.... 66,578,900 \$45,067,400 68,278,400 1902..... 60,584,800 1903..... ,63,464,500 + 8,744,900 64,829,700 + 18,778,800

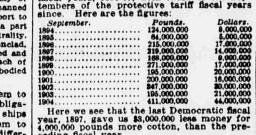
For the current year, and probably for several years to come, there is not likely to be any very notable change, either gain or loss, in Cuba's balance of trade. Before she can greatly increase her exports there must come a material increase in the number of her laborers in the field. Within the last two weeks the Cuban Senate has had under consideration a proposal to expend \$600,000 in bringing in immigrants from Southern Europe and the Canary Islands. It is estimated that the cutting of all the sugar cane now standing on the plantations of the island, for grinding during the coming season, would call for 35,000 additional laborers. Yet even that would only increase exports by some \$3,000,000.

For any very great increase in Cuba's export of sugar, her most valuable crop, there must come an increase in the number and the capacity of grinding mills as well as in the number of laborers. For such investment there is little encouragement at the prevailing price of raw sugar. If Cuba's total commerce, export and import, increases by 10 per cent. during the next five years she will be doing exceedingly well.

PARKER AND RAW COTTON. The Figures of Export in Relation to

Contemporaneous Politics. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: gratifying to find that though we got a lower price for the raw cotton we exported in September, 1904, than in September, 1903, the month's transactions brought us more than \$22,500,000 more money. In September, 1904, we exported 410,940,894 pounds foss\$43,742,335 getting 10.6 cents per pound, against 195,505, 694 pounds for \$21,179,900, at 10.8 cents per pound, in September, 1903. More than double as much cotton for more than double as much money, though the price was 0.2 cents per pound lower.
Opponents of Republican national control

try to make us believe that such control and the protective policy retard exports. That is all sheer nonsense. It has been so shown in many lines, and it can also be so shown i exports of raw cotton. Compare the figures in round millions of pounds and dollars for the Septembers of the last four low tariff fiscal years, 1894-97, with those of the Sep-tembers of the protective tariff fiscal years tembers of the protective since. Here are the figures



4,000,000 pounds more cotton, than the proceding fiscal year.

But the opponents of Republicanism may
say, "Crops vary, prices are forced up and
down." Very well then, we admit that; but
average the Septembers of the four and seven
fiscal years in question. Here are the averfiscal years in question. Here are the aver-

Septembers. 1894-97, low tariff.... 1898-1904, protection. prising years.

These figures show Democratic national control at its best. Now compare that result with our raw cotton exports in the Septembers of Cleveland's disastrous return engagement (second term), and we have the follow-

ing averages: Cleveland's first term... 121,600,000 Cleveland's second term. 155,000,000 This comparison shows that Democratic rule cost our Southern cotton growers each year of those four years, 34,000,000 pounds of cotton and \$8,000,000 of money; in all, 136,000,000 pounds of cotton and \$24,000,000 of money, compared with Cleveland's first term.

Democratic national control means commercial and fluenced district

oop pounds of cotton and \$2,000,000 of money, compared with Cleveland's first term. Democratic national control means commercial and financial distrust, and restraint of business opportunity and business effort, no matter who heads the ticket. That assertion is not theory but experience. Cotton is part, and a large part, of our life blood. Its export has, says the Bureau of Statistics, largely helped to bring our exports up to \$1,481,000,000 for the twelve months ended September, 1904, an increase of \$74,000,000 over the similar preceding twelve months. It is our birthright, and we will not sell our birthright. Walter J. Ballard. Schenectady, Oct. 17.

A Practical Man. He sits at Headquarters and plans out his jokes He's working for Benjamin as hard as he can Cady Herrick, he Says that voters will oust Benny B.

The Governor-Chairman puts up a great front

And wires the leaders to come quick to town.

He's trying his hardest the danger to shunt, But the Grocery scandal is too big to down. And the Honorable D. Cady Herrick, why he Covernor B. conceived a great plan

and he issued his orders to challenge each man Who might be for Herrick. It looks like a jok When the Honorable D-Cady Herrick, says "W Will upset the scheming of Benjamin B. But Ben, as we said, is a practical man,

Though his holdings of sense are in quantity He bought Shipbuilding bonds on a get-rich-quick

And squealed like a baby when prices did fall. And the Honorable D-Cady Herrick, why he Will win from the Grocer as sure as can be.

and Governor B., when election is o'er, Will wonder what hit him, and hit him so hard; Not a spot on his carcass but that will be sore, And his chance of preferment forever be marred While the Honorable D-Cady Herrick, why he

Will rule, and rule squarely in old Alban

SAHARA'S STRANGE CITY.

Arauan Exists Solely on Account of Its Supply of Water. France's growing influence in the Sahara has just been illustrated in a remarkable

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The inhabitants of the famous town of Arauan sent their leading men to the French, voluntarily offering to place their town under the Government of France They asked that officials be sent there to

establish French rule. The French had not been within many miles of the place. Only two white men had ever seen it. One of them was Major Laing, who passed through Arauan in 1820, and a day or two later was murdered near the town

The other was the Austrian explorer Lenz who visited Arauan in 1880 and wrote the only description of it that we possess He found that the shelk who ruled Arauar had in his possession the papers and other property of the murdered Laing, but would not part with them. There is little doubt that France will now secure them and that the mystery of the later adventures of this daring explorer will be cleared up.

There is no other town in the Sahara like Arauan. It cannot be called an oasis, for it is in the midst of the wildest sand waste in the great desert, and scarcely a blade of grass grows there.

There is enough vegetation to feed a few sheep and camels, but the people seldom have any fodder to sell, and yet there is good reason why about one hundred houses have stood here for generations among the great sand dunes that tower around them.

From the flat roofs of the houses nothing can be seen but the pale yellow sand hills. It would be inconceivable that human beings could live in such a place if we did not know that the town has an extraordinarily large quantity of water.

Arauan occupies a depression in the desert, and though water is obtained only by digging very deep wells it is in inexhaustible supply. The town is on the caravan route from Timbuktu, and at Arauan one branch of the road leads to Algeria and the other to Morocco.

No caravan is so large that it cannot be supplied there with all the water it needs It is the one commodity of the place. The nhabitants make their living by selling it.

There are two reasons why the people have not been able, even with boundless water resources, to create an island of verdure in the midst of the frightful sand waste. In the first place the water is drawn only from very deep wells and the labor of raising it would make it impossible to miltivate any large area.

Then the sand is very deep and only in few small areas can soil be reached on which crops can be grown. Water will not make grass and olive trees grow where their roots would penetrate no kind of earth minute fragments of quartz. So the supplies for the people of Arauan

have always been brought from Timbuktu, 120 miles to the south. Water pays for everything they possess excepting the clay of which their houses are built, and this they obtain when they dig their deep wells, for the excavations extend through the sand surface to clay beds. The fact that the people would starve

! Timbuktu were not their granary doubtless explains the voluntary submission of this desert folk to the French. Timbuktu is now the capital of a large district in the French western Sudan. The natives have water, but the only sources of their food supply are in the hands of white men.

This is the reason why these isolated and fanatical people have gone to the whites to beg for friendship and protection. MIGHTY MOTHER KANSAS.

Plains of Grasshoppers and Genius.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: As a Kansas girl I was particularly interested in your article of achool house, in the shelter of a hill, en the way to which I and my older sister and brothers used often to see a distant coyote loping to some forage ground. One snowy morning a lean gray wol kept pace with us almost to the school house door.

Another day in late summer a great prairie fire raged for miles around us, and all that day my father and the hired men fought the fire with

ploughs, backfires and gunny sacks.

The memory of another day comes vividly before me, when the Pottowatomic Indians passed the me, when the Pottowatomic Indians passed the house on the way to their new reservation. My heart was filled with childish terror when a fat squaw astride a pony, her baby slung on her back, approached my mother, who was carrying me in her arms, and offered to trade pappooses.

But the day came, as it comes to so many of Kansas's children, when the restless wind, irritating, coaxing, tantalizing, alluring, filled my veins, imbuing me with its unsatisfied spirit till I too, took oung me win its unsatisfied spirit this too, took up the chase for that unsatisfinable something that lures us on beyond our natural boundaries. Coming East I had not enough money to pay for a berth at night, and sat rigidly upright for two long days and longer nights on a hot red plush seat in a day car, but never losing sight of my will o' the wisp. Now, though ten years have gone by and I have long een a New Yorker, the heart of no historic patriot beat more loyally than does mine for my BROOKLYN, Oct. 17.

Wrong Registration Office. From the St. James's Gazette.

The monotony of revising the voters' lists at Choriton-cum-Hardy, a suburb of Manchester, was relieved by a very amusing incident yesterday. costume, entered the court and walked up to the

For whom do you appear?" asked the barrister. The Nurse-"Mrs. --- " (mentioning the name f a lady living in the district). The Barrister—"Why didn't she come herself?" The nurse, with evident surprise, replied: "She

an't very well." "What is it you want then?"
"To register."

women on the Parliamentary register. You know addes have no votes, don't you?" "Votes! Votes!" exclaimed the nurse. "I don't

"That's all very well, but we have not yet got

Exit of blushing nurse escorted by a policeman to the office of the registrar of births, which happens to be in the same building.

The Mexican Navy.

From the Washington Star. Mexico recently added two modern gunboats o its small naval fleet, and two similar vessels are now in process of construction at Genoa, Italy. In recent years Mexico has devoted some atten-tion to fortifying her coasts, but has not increased her navy until now.

The two vessels building in Italy will be

named Bravo and the Moreios. Exclusive of these Italian built ships the Mexican navy consists of four gunboats in the Gulf of Mexico and two on the Pacific coast, besides several small patrol boats in southern waters. The two vessels recently built in the United States are the mor formidable ships in the Mexican Navy. There is a naval school at Vera Cruz, also an arsenal and a small floating dock, as well as a small wooden dock at Guaymas, in the Gulf of California.

Advertising plays such a great part in business to-day that originality counts for more than ex-tensiveness. A shopkeeper recently announced that he would give \$5.000 to any one who was perfectly contented with his lot. Of course, many with the reply:

"You are not content, for if you were you would not wish the \$5,000." Music in Michigan.

From the Clear Lake Correspondence. Miss Daisy Devoe presided at the plane and beca-tifully played Mendel & Sons wedding march. to pa agency you a fear I \$18." keeper step to and a every once, a to get \$5. O the people that talks things. "The liable prepa The its bu vice o who the id ness it is China and a tories pose dition bathis for got burea keep gatin who is a I is utt woma glad rid o cause emple "W

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